

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 11, and 14-17 as follows (the changes in these Claims are shown with ~~strike through~~ for deleted matter and underlines for added matter) and cancel claims 3, 12 and 13, without prejudice. A complete listing of the claims with proper claim identifiers is set forth below.

1. (Currently amended) A one piece gripping device for use with a single hand of a user and a sporting element comprising:
 - a body portion having a generally funnel shaped hollow interior portion adapted to be secured to a shaft of the sporting element, the body portion having two spaced apart opposing side walls;
 - a thumb receiving member connected to the body portion having a thumb opening;
 - a fingers receiving member connected to the body portion, ~~the fingers receiving member generally opposite the thumb receiving member,~~ having a fingers opening, the fingers opening extending generally perpendicular to the thumb opening whereby the user could secure a hand to the shaft of the sporting element.
2. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the body portion is flexible.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Original) The device of claim 2 wherein the body portion includes a longitudinally extending opening.
5. (Currently amended) The device of claim 4 wherein the fingers receiving member is adapted to extend over and secure two fingers of a user within the fingers opening.
6. (Currently amended) The device of claim 5 wherein the fingers receiving member is adapted to extend over and secure two adjacent fingers ~~are adjacent~~.
7. (Currently amended) The device of claim 5 wherein the fingers receiving member is adapted to extend over and secure two fingers that are not adjacent.
8. (Original) The device of claim 2 wherein the fingers receiving member defines a fingers receiving loop extending longitudinally along the body portion.
9. (Original) The device of claim 4 wherein the thumb receiving member defines a thumb receiving loop extending laterally across the body portion.

10. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the body portion that is adapted to be secured to the sporting element is a golf club.

11. (Currently amended) A one piece gripping device for use with a single hand of a user comprising:

a generally flexible body portion having a generally funnel shaped longitudinally extending opening and a hollow interior portion, the body portion having two spaced apart opposing side walls;

a laterally extending thumb receiving member connected to the body portion and adapted to extend over and across the thumb of a user;

a longitudinally extending fingers receiving member connected to the body portion, the fingers receiving member generally opposite the thumb receiving portion and adapted to extend over and across the fingers of a user.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) The device of claim ~~13~~ 11 wherein the fingers receiving member is adapted to extend over and secure two fingers of a user.

15. (Currently amended) The device of claim 14 wherein the fingers receiving member is adapted to extend over and secure two adjacent fingers ~~are adjacent~~.

16. (Currently amended) The device of claim 14 wherein the fingers receiving member is adapted to extend over and secure two fingers that are not adjacent.

17. (Currently amended) A method of enhancing the grip of a single hand of a user on a sporting element comprising:

providing a one piece gripping device comprising;

a funnel shaped body portion having a hollow interior portion, the body portion having two spaced apart opposing side walls;

a thumb receiving member connected to the body portion;

a fingers receiving member connected to the body portion, the fingers receiving member generally opposite the thumb receiving member and extending generally perpendicular thereto;

attaching the body portion of the gripping device to a sporting element;

inserting the thumb of a user into the thumb receiving member; and

inserting ~~a finger~~ two or more fingers of a user into the fingers receiving member.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the body portion is flexible and has a longitudinally extending opening, and wherein the body portion of the gripping device is attached to the sporting element by inserting the sporting element through the longitudinally extending opening, such that the hollow interior portion is around the sporting element.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the body portion of the gripping device is attached to a golf club.